

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY MAY 3, 2000

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE—1999–2000 REGULAR SESSION

**ASSEMBLY BILL**

**No. 2405**

**Introduced by Assembly Member Maddox**

February 24, 2000

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An act to amend Sections 674, 699.510, 699.520, 699.540, 699.545, and 700.010 of, *and to add Section 680.135 to*, the Code of Civil Procedure, relating to judgments.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 2405, as amended, Maddox. Abstract of judgment or decree: contents.

Existing law requires an abstract of a judgment or decree requiring the payment of money to be certified by the clerk of the court and to contain certain information, as specified. Existing law also provides that after entry of a money judgment, the clerk of the court shall issue a writ of execution upon application by the judgment creditor and the writ shall be directed to the levying officer in the county where the levy is to be made and to any registered process server, as specified.

This bill would authorize the judgment creditor to file an affidavit of identity, as defined, under penalty of perjury, that states the name of the judgment debtor listed on the judgment, ~~and the different or additional~~ *the additional name* or names by which the judgment debtor is known ~~or owns~~ property. ~~The bill would require that the abstract of judgment and writ of execution be issued in the names stated in the affidavit of identity as well as in the name of the judgment~~

~~debtor as listed on the judgment.~~ The bill would require the court to approve the affidavit of identity prior to authorizing the issuance of the abstract of judgment or writ of execution with the judgment debtor's additional names. The bill would provide, in any case in which the writ of execution lists any name other than the name listed on the judgment, the levying officer to wait 15 days after service of the notice of levy prior to enforcing the levy. The bill would provide remedies for 3rd parties whose property was erroneously subject to an enforcement of judgment proceeding based upon the affidavit of identity, as specified. The bill would also make related changes and impose related requirements.

Because this bill would impose additional duties on local officials, and expand the crime of perjury, it would create a state-mandated local program.

The California Constitution requires the state to reimburse local agencies and school districts for certain costs mandated by the state. Statutory provisions establish procedures for making that reimbursement, including the creation of a State Mandates Claims Fund to pay the costs of mandates that do not exceed \$1,000,000 statewide and other procedures for claims whose statewide costs exceed \$1,000,000.

This bill would provide that with regard to certain mandates no reimbursement is required by this act for a specified reason.

With regard to any other mandates, this bill would provide that, if the Commission on State Mandates determines that the bill contains costs so mandated by the state, reimbursement for those costs shall be made pursuant to the statutory provisions noted above.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: yes. State-mandated local program: yes.

*The people of the State of California do enact as follows:*

- 1 SECTION 1. Section 674 of the Code of Civil
- 2 Procedure is amended to read:
- 3 674. (a) Except as otherwise provided in Section
- 4 4506 of the Family Code, an abstract of a judgment or
- 5 decree requiring the payment of money shall be certified



1 by the clerk of the court where the judgment or decree  
2 was entered and shall contain all of the following:

3 (1) The title of the court where the judgment or  
4 decree is entered and cause and number of the action.

5 (2) The date of entry of the judgment or decree and  
6 of any renewals of the judgment or decree and where  
7 entered in the records of the court.

8 (3) The name and last known address of the judgment  
9 debtor and the address at which the summons was either  
10 personally served or mailed to the judgment debtor or the  
11 judgment debtor's attorney of record.

12 (4) The name and address of the judgment creditor.

13 (5) The amount of the judgment or decree as entered  
14 or as last renewed.

15 (6) The social security number and driver's license  
16 number of the judgment debtor if they are known to the  
17 judgment creditor; and, if either or both of those numbers  
18 are not known to the judgment creditor, that fact shall be  
19 indicated on the abstract of judgment.

20 (7) Whether a stay of enforcement has been ordered  
21 by the court and, if so, the date the stay ends.

22 (8) The date of issuance of the abstract.

23 (b) An abstract of judgment, recorded after January 1,  
24 1979, that does not list the social security number and  
25 driver's license number of the judgment debtor, or either  
26 of them, as required by subdivision (a) or by Section 4506  
27 of the Family Code, may be amended by the recording of  
28 a document entitled "Amendment to Abstract of  
29 Judgment." The Amendment to Abstract of Judgment  
30 shall contain all of the information required by this  
31 section or by Section 4506 of the Family Code, shall list  
32 both the social security number and driver's license  
33 number if both of those numbers were known at the date  
34 of recordation of the original abstract of judgment, or one  
35 of them, if only one was known, and shall set forth the date  
36 of recording and the book and page location in the  
37 records of the county recorder of the original abstract of  
38 judgment.

39 A recorded Amendment to Abstract of Judgment shall  
40 have priority as of the date of recordation of the original

1 abstract of judgment, except as to any purchaser,  
2 encumbrancer, or lessee who obtained their interest after  
3 the recordation of the original abstract of judgment but  
4 prior to the recordation of the Amendment to Abstract of  
5 Judgment without actual notice of the original abstract of  
6 judgment. The purchaser, encumbrancer, or lessee  
7 without actual notice may assert as a defense against  
8 enforcement of the abstract of judgment the failure to  
9 comply with this section or Section 4506 of the Family  
10 Code regarding the contents of the original abstract of  
11 judgment notwithstanding the subsequent recordation of  
12 an Amendment to Abstract of Judgment. With respect to  
13 an abstract of judgment recorded between January 1,  
14 1979, and July 10, 1985, the defense against enforcement  
15 for failure to comply with this section or Section 4506 of  
16 the Family Code may not be asserted by the holder of  
17 another abstract of judgment or involuntary lien,  
18 recorded without actual notice of the prior abstract,  
19 unless refusal to allow the defense would result in  
20 prejudice and substantial injury as used in Section 475.  
21 The recordation of an Amendment to Abstract of  
22 Judgment does not extend or otherwise alter the  
23 computation of time as provided in Section 697.310.

24 ~~(c) If an individual judgment debtor has changed his~~  
25 ~~or her name from the name listed on the judgment to~~  
26 ~~another name, or holds assets in a name other than the~~  
27 ~~name listed on the judgment, the~~ *The abstract of*  
28 *judgment shall be issued in the name of the judgment*  
29 *debtor as listed on the judgment*~~and the~~ *and shall also*  
30 *include the additional name or names by which the*  
31 *judgment debtor is known as set forth in the affidavit of*  
32 *identity, as defined in Section 680.135, filed by the*  
33 *judgment creditor with the application for issuance of the*  
34 *abstract of judgment. The court shall approve the*  
35 *affidavit of identity prior to issuing an abstract of*  
36 *judgment with the name of the judgment debtor as listed*  
37 *on the judgment and the additional name or names by*  
38 *which the judgment debtor is known.*

39 ~~(d) “Affidavit of Identity” means an affidavit filed by~~  
40 ~~a judgment creditor, under penalty of perjury, that states~~

~~the name of the judgment debtor listed on the judgment,  
and the different or additional names by which the  
judgment debtor is known or owns property.~~

SEC. 2. *Section 680.135 is added to the Code of Civil Procedure, to read:*

*680.135. "Affidavit of Identity" means an affidavit or declaration executed by a judgment creditor, under penalty of perjury, that is filed with the clerk of the court in which the judgment is entered at the time the judgment creditor files for a writ of execution. The affidavit of identity shall set forth the case name and number, the name of the judgment debtor stated in the judgment, the additional name or names by which the judgment debtor is known, and the facts upon which the judgment creditor has relied in obtaining the judgment debtor's additional name or names. The affidavit of identity shall not include the name or names of persons other than the judgment debtor.*

SEC. 3. *Section 699.510 of the Code of Civil Procedure is amended to read:*

*699.510. (a) Subject to subdivision (b), after entry of a money judgment, a writ of execution shall be issued by the clerk of the court upon application of the judgment creditor and shall be directed to the levying officer in the county where the levy is to be made and to any registered process server. A separate writ shall be issued for each county where a levy is to be made. Writs may be issued successively until the money judgment is satisfied, except that a new writ may not be issued for a county until the expiration of 180 days after the issuance of a prior writ for that county unless the prior writ is first returned.*

*(b) If the judgment creditor seeks a writ of execution to enforce a judgment made, entered, or enforceable pursuant to the Family Code, in addition to the requirements of this article, the judgment creditor shall satisfy the requirements of any applicable provisions of Chapter 7 (commencing with Section 5100) of Part 5 of Division 9 of the Family Code and Sections 290, 291, 2026, and 3556 of the Family Code.*

1     ~~(c) If an individual judgment debtor has changed his~~  
2 ~~or her name from the name listed on the judgment to~~  
3 ~~another name, or owns property in a name other than the~~  
4 ~~name listed on the judgment, the~~ *The writ of execution*  
5 *shall be issued in the name of the judgment debtor as*  
6 *listed on the judgment* ~~and the~~ *and shall include the*  
7 *additional name or names by which the judgment debtor*  
8 *is known as set forth in the affidavit of identity, as defined*  
9 *in Section 680.135, filed by the judgment creditor with the*  
10 *application for issuance of the writ of execution. The*  
11 *court shall approve the affidavit of identity prior to*  
12 *issuing a writ of execution with the name of the judgment*  
13 *debtor as listed on the judgment and the additional name*  
14 *or names by which the judgment debtor is known. The*  
15 *court shall authorize, without a hearing or notice, the*  
16 *issuance of the writ of execution with the additional name*  
17 *or names by which the judgment debtor is known upon*  
18 *determining that the affidavit of identity states sufficient*  
19 *facts upon which the plaintiff has identified the additional*  
20 *names of the judgment debtor.*

21     ~~(d) In any case where the writ of execution lists any~~  
22 ~~name other than that listed on the judgment, the person~~  
23 ~~being levied upon shall not pay to the levying officer the~~  
24 ~~amount or property being levied upon until being~~  
25 ~~notified to do so by the levying officer. The levying officer~~  
26 ~~may not require the person being levied upon to pay the~~  
27 ~~amount levied upon until the expiration of 15 days after~~  
28 ~~service of notice of levy.~~

29     ~~(e) If a third party who is not the judgment debtor has~~  
30 ~~property erroneously subject to an enforcement of~~  
31 ~~judgment proceeding based upon an affidavit of identity,~~  
32 ~~the third party shall be entitled to the recovery of~~  
33 ~~reasonable attorneys' fees and costs incurred in asserting~~  
34 ~~the third party's interest in the property. The third party~~  
35 ~~may assert its interest pursuant to the provisions of~~  
36 ~~Division 4 (commencing with Section 720.010); however,~~  
37 ~~the failure of the third party to use these provisions shall~~  
38 ~~not limit or alter the third party's rights or remedies~~  
39 ~~under this section and other applicable law.~~

1 ~~(d) “Affidavit of Identity” means an affidavit filed by~~  
2 ~~a judgment creditor, under penalty of perjury, that states~~  
3 ~~the name of the judgment debtor listed on the judgment,~~  
4 ~~and the different or additional names by which the~~  
5 ~~judgment debtor is known or owns property.~~

6 ~~SEC. 3.~~

7 *SEC. 4.* Section 699.520 of the Code of Civil Procedure  
8 is amended to read:

9 699.520. The writ of execution shall require the  
10 levying officer to whom it is directed to enforce the  
11 money judgment and shall include the following  
12 information:

13 (a) The date of issuance of the writ.

14 (b) The title of the court where the judgment is  
15 entered and the cause and number of the action.

16 (c) The name and address of the judgment creditor  
17 and the name and last known address of the judgment  
18 debtor.

19 (d) The date of the entry of the judgment and of any  
20 subsequent renewals and where entered in the records of  
21 the court.

22 (e) The total amount of the money judgment as  
23 entered or renewed, together with costs thereafter added  
24 to the judgment pursuant to Section 685.090 and the  
25 accrued interest on the judgment from the date of entry  
26 or renewal of the judgment to the date of issuance of the  
27 writ, reduced by any partial satisfactions and by any  
28 amounts no longer enforceable.

29 (f) The amount required to satisfy the money  
30 judgment on the date the writ is issued.

31 (g) The amount of interest accruing daily on the  
32 principal amount of the judgment from the date the writ  
33 is issued.

34 (h) Whether any person has requested notice of sale  
35 under the judgment and, if so, the name and mailing  
36 address of such person.

37 (i) The sum of the fees and costs added to the  
38 judgment pursuant to Section 6103.5 or 68511.3 of the  
39 Government Code and which is in addition to the amount  
40 owing to the judgment creditor on the judgment.



(j) Whether the writ of execution includes any additional names of the judgment debtor pursuant to an affidavit of identity, *as defined in Section 680.135*.

~~SEC. 4.~~

SEC. 5. Section 699.540 of the Code of Civil Procedure is amended to read:

699.540. The notice of levy required by Article 4 (commencing with Section 700.010) shall inform the person notified of all of the following:

(a) The capacity in which the person is notified.

(b) The property that is levied upon.

(c) The person's rights under the levy, including the right to claim an exemption pursuant to Chapter 4 (commencing with Section 703.010) and the right to make a third-party claim pursuant to Division 4 (commencing with Section 720.010).

(d) The person's duties under the levy.

(e) All names listed in the writ of execution pursuant to an affidavit of identity, *as defined in Section 680.135*, if any.

~~SEC. 5.~~

SEC. 6. Section 699.545 of the Code of Civil Procedure is amended to read:

699.545. A copy of the original notice of levy which has been served upon a third party holding the property sought to be levied upon and the affidavit of identity, *as defined in Section 680.135*, if any, if served upon the judgment debtor or any other party, shall suffice as the notice of levy to that person.

~~SEC. 6.~~

SEC. 7. Section 700.010 of the Code of Civil Procedure is amended to read:

700.010. (a) At the time of levy pursuant to this article or promptly thereafter, the levying officer shall serve a copy of the following on the judgment debtor:

(1) The writ of execution.

(2) A notice of levy.

(3) If the judgment debtor is a natural person, a copy of the form listing exemptions prepared by the Judicial Council pursuant to subdivision (c) of Section 681.030.



1 (4) Any affidavit of identity, *as defined in Section*  
2 *680.135*, for names of the debtor listed on the writ of  
3 execution.

4 (b) Service under this section shall be made personally  
5 or by mail.

6 ~~SEC. 7.~~

7 *SEC. 8.* No reimbursement is required by this act  
8 pursuant to Section 6 of Article XIII B of the California  
9 Constitution for certain costs that may be incurred by a  
10 local agency or school district because in that regard this  
11 act creates a new crime or infraction, eliminates a crime  
12 or infraction, or changes the penalty for a crime or  
13 infraction, within the meaning of Section 17556 of the  
14 Government Code, or changes the definition of a crime  
15 within the meaning of Section 6 of Article XIII B of the  
16 California Constitution.

17 However, notwithstanding Section 17610 of the  
18 Government Code, if the Commission on State Mandates  
19 determines that this act contains other costs mandated by  
20 the state, reimbursement to local agencies and school  
21 districts for those costs shall be made pursuant to Part 7  
22 (commencing with Section 17500) of Division 4 of Title  
23 2 of the Government Code. If the statewide cost of the  
24 claim for reimbursement does not exceed one million  
25 dollars (\$1,000,000), reimbursement shall be made from  
26 the State Mandates Claims Fund.